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Friends of Oswald Feel Assassination Had No Rationale

DALLAS, Tex., Dec. 11 (AP) —In a copyrighted story last night, The Dallas Times Herald quoted George and Jeanne de Mohrenschildt, perhaps the only persons in the world to have known the families of both President Kennedy and Lee Harvey Oswald, as saying there was no reason for the assassination.

"If Oswald truly was the sniper, President Kennedy was killed because of a washing machine," Mrs. de Mohrenschildt said in an interview here. She went on:

"Only the night before the assassination, Oswald had gone to Marina [his wife] and asked her to make her home with him again in an apartment he promised to rent. She wouldn't agree unless he would equip the apartment with a washing machine.

"For a person as unstable as Oswald, this demand and the argument it caused would arouse bitterness and the wish to strike and hurt someone."

De Mohrenschildt, a Russian-born geologist and petroleum engineer, and his fashion-designer wife were among a group of Russian-speaking American citizens who befriended Oswald and his Russian bride in Dallas during a period before the assassination three years ago. He has been acquainted with Jacqueline Kennedy's father, John Bouvier, and mother, Mrs. Hugh Auchincloss, since Mrs. Kennedy was a girl.

The newspaper said that "de Mohrenschildt remembers when he was told that a suspect had been captured he asked if the name was Oswald."

"It was subconscious, a sort of flash and came probably from knowing that Oswald had a gun," de Mohrenschildt was quoted as saying by The Times Herald.

The couple said that when they were called to Washington from Haiti to testify before the Warren Commission some of their evenings were spent with Mrs. Auchincloss.

"Mrs. Auchincloss was interested in the Oswalds and wanted to know all about them," Mrs. de Mohrenschildt said. "But she was opposed, as was Mrs. Kennedy, to an investigation. "We argued a little about it. As an American citizen I felt that we must establish the blame and try to find the reason for the death of our President."

"The sad thing about it," Mr. de Mohrenschildt added, "is that there was no reason for it, and that is what the people in other countries cannot understand. It has been extremely harmful for our national image."